

maintain our sanctions against Iran and take decisive steps to prevent evasion. Sanctions have cut off vital resources that Iran's leaders use to enrich themselves and spread terrorism. U.S. financial sanctions make it harder for Iran to fund its ambitions to become a nuclear power.

Unfortunately, bad actors work hard to get around United States' sanctions. That is why I co-introduced the Preventing Illicit Finance Act. This bill supports our maximum pressure campaign and creates a public-private group to limit the abuse of the financial system by bad actors like Iran. My bill strengthens the United States' ability to enforce financial sanctions against Iran, Russia, and other adversaries.

Our maximum pressure campaign is working. We cannot turn a blind eye to Iran's aggressions and pursuit of terrorism. Iran must be held accountable.

By strengthening our sanctions enforcement and maintaining our tough approach, we can prevent Iran from becoming a nuclear power.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 2 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Loving God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

In the waning days of this 116th Congress, we ask Your blessing upon the Members of this people's House and, most especially, upon the leadership. It is on their shoulders the most important negotiations of this Congress have been placed.

They have been entrusted by their fellow Americans with the awesome privilege and responsibility of sustaining the great experiment of democratic self-government. Give them wisdom, grace, insight, and courage to forge legislation, especially during these trying times of coronavirus pandemic, that allows us all to move forward toward an encouraging future.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 4(a) of House Resolution 967, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, December 2, 2020.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,

The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: I have the honor to transmit herewith a scanned copy of a letter received from Mr. Chris Harvey, Director of Election, Georgia Office of Secretary of State, indicating that, according to the preliminary results of the Special Election held December 1, 2020, the Honorable Kwanza Hall was elected Representative to Congress for the Fifth Congressional District, State of Georgia.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON.

Enclosure.

OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE,

Atlanta, GA, December 2, 2020.

Re Fifth Congressional District Runoff Special Election Unofficial Results.

Hon. CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MS. JOHNSON: Please accept this correspondence to advise you that the unofficial results of the Special Election held on Tuesday, December 1, 2020, for Representative in Congress from the Fifth Congressional District of Georgia, show that Mr. Kwanza Hall received 12,094 votes or 54% of votes of the total number of votes cast for that office.

It would appear from these unofficial results that Mr. Hall was elected as Representative in Congress from the Fifth Congressional District of Georgia.

To the best of our knowledge and belief at this time, there is no contest to this election.

As soon as the official results are certified to this office by all jurisdictions in Clayton County, DeKalb County, and Fulton County that comprise the Fifth Congressional District of Georgia, an official Certificate of Election will be prepared for transmittal as required by law.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

CHRIS HARVEY,
Elections Director.

SWEARING IN OF THE HONORABLE KWANZA HALL, OF GEORGIA, AS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from Georgia, the Honorable KWANZA HALL, be permitted to take the oath of office today.

His certificate of election has not arrived, but there is no contest and no

question has been raised with regard to his election.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. Will Representative-elect HALL and the members of the Georgia delegation present themselves in the well.

All Members will rise and the Representative-elect will please raise his right hand.

Mr. HALL appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office, as follows:

Do you solemnly swear that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear truth faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office to which you are about to enter, so help you God.

The SPEAKER. Congratulations, you are now a Member of the 116th Congress.

WELCOMING THE HONORABLE KWANZA HALL TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BISHOP) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, ladies and gentlemen of the House, the Honorable KWANZA HALL is a native of Atlanta, attended Atlanta public schools, and attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

He worked for the Fulton County Government. He was vice president of technology for GoodWorks International, and he is currently director of business development at Mactech Engineering.

In 2002, he was elected to the Atlanta Board of Education. In 2005, he was elected to the Atlanta City Council, District Two, where he served three consecutive terms.

Following the death of our beloved colleague, Congressman John Lewis, Kwanza qualified to run in the special election to fill the unexpired term of Congressman Lewis, which was held on November 3. There were several candidates, but none received the required majority under Georgia law.

On December 1, KWANZA won the runoff special election. His election means that the people of the Fifth Congressional District of Georgia, in Atlanta, will be represented and have a voice during this lameduck session of the 116th Congress as we debate and, hopefully, enact, among other things, the FY 2021 appropriations bill funding the operations of the Federal Government and much-needed COVID-19 relief for America's families, businesses, and our State and local governments.

He is married to Fulton County Commissioner Natalie Hall, and they have two sons.